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means, adapted to be supported by the user while the user is in locomotion on foot, for determining that the user is walking based upon at least one first determined foot contact time of the user; and

means, adapted to be supported by the user while the user is in locomotion on foot, for determining that the user is running based upon at least one second determined foot contact time of the user.

75. (New) The system of claim 74, wherein the at least one sensor does not require compression forces thereon to determine the foot contact time of the user.

REMARKS

In response to the Office Action mailed May 22, 2002, Applicant respectfully requests reconsideration. To further the prosecution of this application, claims have been amended, claims have been added, and Applicant hereby submit the following remarks.

At the outset, Applicant wishes to thank Examiner Vo for the courtesy he extended in granting and conducting a telephone interview with the undersigned attorney on August 21, 2002. During that interview, the claims as presented herein were discussed, and it was agreed that the claims distinguish patentably over U.S. Patent No. 5,636,146 (Flentov). The Examiner indicated that all claim rejections based on that reference would be withdrawn.

No other bases for rejection were stated in the Office Action.

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The specification has been amended to update the current status of the referenced parent applications, as required by the Examiner.

Enclosed herewith a copy of an Information Disclosure Statement, and accompanying PTO Form 1449, which were filed on April 4, 2001. The returned postcard evidencing the filing of the Information Disclosure Statement on that date is also enclosed. Applicant respectfully requests consideration of the references and other information cited in these documents.

CONCLUSION

In view of the foregoing amendments and remarks, this application should now be in condition for allowance. A notice to this effect is respectfully requested. If the Examiner believes, after this amendment, that the application is not in condition for allowance, the Examiner is requested to call Applicant's attorney at the telephone number listed below.

If this response is not considered timely filed and if a request for an extension of time is otherwise absent, Applicant hereby requests any necessary extension of time. If there is a fee occasioned by this response, including an extension fee, that is not covered by an enclosed check, please charge any deficiency to Deposit Account No. 23/2825.

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Respectfully submitted,
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MARKED-UP SPECIFICATION

This is a continuation-in-part of each of application Serial Nos. 09/547,975, 09/547,976, 09/547,977, and 09/548,217, each of which was filed on April 12, 2000, and is now abandoned [pending]. Each of application Serial Nos. 09/547,975, 09/547,976, 09/547,977, and 09/548,217 is a continuation-in-part of application Serial No. 09/364,559, filed on July 30, 1999, and now Patent No. 6,052,654, which is a continuation of application Serial No. 08/942,802, filed October 2, 1997, and now Patent No. 6,018,705.

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MARKED-UP CLAIMS

1. (Amended) A method, comprising steps of:
 - (a) with at least one device supported by a user while the user is in locomotion on foot, determining at least one foot contact time of the user for at least one footstep taken by the user [in locomotion];
 - (b) comparing a variable having the at least one determined foot contact time as a factor therein with a threshold value; and
 - (c1) if the variable is one of greater than or less than the threshold value, determining that the user is walking; and
 - (c2) if the variable is the other of greater than or less than the threshold value, determining that the user is running.

 8. (Amended) A method, comprising steps of:
 - (a) determining at least one foot contact time of a user for at least one footstep taken by the user [while the user is in locomotion on foot];
 - (b) comparing the at least one determined foot contact time with a threshold value; and
 - (c1) if the foot contact time is less than the threshold value, determining that the user is running; and
 - (c2) if the foot contact time is greater than the threshold value, determining that the user is walking.
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10. (Amended) A system, comprising:

at least one processor, adapted to be supported by a user while the user is in locomotion on foot, that determines at least one foot contact time of the user for at least one footstep taken by the user [in locomotion], and compares a variable having the at least one determined foot contact time as a factor therein with a threshold value; wherein, if the variable is one of greater than or less than the threshold value, the at least one processor determines that the user is walking, and, if the variable is the other of greater than or less than the threshold value, the at least one processor determines that the user is running.

13. (Amended) A system, comprising:

at least one processor, adapted to be supported by a user while the user is in locomotion on foot, that determines at least one foot contact time of the user for at least one footstep taken by the user [in locomotion], and compares the at least one determined foot contact time with a threshold value; wherein, if the foot contact time is less than the threshold value, the at least one processor determines that the user is running, and, if the foot contact time is greater than the threshold value, the at least one processor determines that the user is walking.

15. (Amended) A system, comprising:

at least one sensor, adapted to be supported by a user while the user is in locomotion on foot, that determines at least one foot contact time of the user for at least one footstep taken by the user [in locomotion];



means, adapted to be supported by the user while the user is in locomotion on foot, for comparing a variable having the at least one determined foot contact time as a factor therein with a threshold value;

means, adapted to be supported by the user while the user is in locomotion on foot, for determining that the user is walking if the variable is one of greater than or less than the threshold value; and

means, adapted to be supported by the user while the user is in locomotion on foot, for determining that the user is running if the variable is the other of greater than or less than the threshold value.

17. (Amended) A system, comprising:

at least one sensor, adapted to be supported by a user while the user is in locomotion on foot, that determines at least one foot contact time of the user for at least one footstep taken by the user [in locomotion];

means, adapted to be supported by the user while the user is in locomotion on foot, for comparing the at least one determined foot contact time with a threshold value;

means, adapted to be supported by the user while the user is in locomotion on foot, for determining that the user is running if the foot contact time is less than the threshold value; and

means, adapted to be supported by the user while the user is in locomotion on foot, for determining that the user is walking if the foot contact time is greater than the threshold value.

38. (Amended) A method, comprising steps of:



(a) with at least one sensor supported by a user, monitoring movement of the user while the user is in locomotion on foot; and

(b) determining a cadence of the user for footsteps taken by the user based upon an output of the at least one sensor.

52. (Amended) A system, comprising:

at least one sensor adapted to be supported by a user and to monitor movement of the user while the user is in locomotion on foot; and

at least one processor that determines a cadence of the user for footsteps taken by the user based upon an output of the at least one sensor.

56. (Amended) A system, comprising:

at least one sensor adapted to be supported by [s] a user and to monitor movement of the user while the user is in locomotion on foot; and

at least one processor that, based upon an output of the at least one sensor, determines a stride length of the user [during] for at least one footstep taken by the user.

63. (Amended) A system, comprising:

at least one sensor adapted to be supported by a user and to monitor movement of the user while the user is in locomotion on foot; and

means for determining a cadence of the user for footsteps taken by the user based upon an output of the at least one sensor.

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65. (Amended) A system, comprising:

at least one sensor adapted to be supported by a user and to monitor movement of the user while the user is in locomotion on foot; and

means for determining a stride length of the user [during] for at least one footstep taken by the user based upon an output of the at least one sensor.